

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☒

Property Name: Onion-RAWL House Inventory Number: BA-360
Address: 11314 Reynolds Road Historic district: ☐ yes ☒ no
City: Kingsville Zip Code: 21087 County: Baltimore County

USGS Quadrangle(s): White Marsh

Property Owner: Allen and Elizabeth Rawl Tax Account ID Number: 1108081640

Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 470 Tax Map Number: 64

Project: Section 200: I-95, North of MD 43 to North of MD 22 Agency: Maryland Transportation Authority

Agency Prepared By: A.D. Marble & Company

Preparer's Name: Emma Young Date Prepared: 9/27/2006

Documentation is presented in: Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form, BA-360, on file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland.

Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☒ Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:

Name of the District/Property: _____

Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: ☐ yes ☐ no Listed: ☐ yes ☐ no

Site visit by MHT Staff ☐ yes ☒ no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Architectural Description:

The Onion-RAWL House, located at 11314 Reynolds Road in Bradshaw, Baltimore County, Maryland, is a two-story, five-bay, L-shaped, circa-1810, stone, Georgian-style dwelling situated on a hill on the north side of Reynolds Road. The dwelling features a five-bay main block connected to a smaller and more modest two-bay frame and clapboard section. The five-bay, symmetrical façade faces west perpendicular to the road. The L-shaped footprint remains intact, and the dwelling is situated on an east-west axis.

A steeply pitched, side-gable roof, sheathed in wood shingles, caps the dwelling, which sits atop a fieldstone foundation. An interior, brick chimney is located on each gable end of the main block. Two, evenly spaced, gabled dormers with returns, each featuring a single, six-over-six light, double-hung sash, wooden window, are located on the west elevation. The main block is primarily lit by six-over-six light, double-hung sash, wooden windows accentuated by brick lintels.

Five rounded brick steps lead to the main entry, which occupies the center bay of the west elevation. The entry features a single-

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MHT Comments:

Jim Thibault
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

PKintz
Reviewer, National Register Program

7/2/07

Date

7/9/07

Date

200702174

leaf, six-panel, wooden door recessed in a three-panel door surround. A five-light transom caps the door and a brick lintel caps the entryway. The north elevation contains a secondary entry, which leads into the basement. The single-leaf, four-panel secondary door is located in a pedimented, enclosed, fieldstone entry that projects approximately two feet northward from the side of the main block.

According to the current property owners, the rear, two-story, frame wing is the original dwelling and dates to circa 1740 (Young 2006). The side-gable, rear wing, which faces south, features an interior, brick chimney on the east end. Six-over-six light, double-hung sash, wooden windows on the first floor and three-over-six light, double-hung sash, wooden windows on the second floor, primarily light the wing.

The south (front) elevation of the rear ell features an enclosed, shed-roof porch clad in aluminum siding. This porch addition accommodates a modern kitchen. A single-leaf, wood, screen door occupies the westernmost bay of the porch. The north elevation contains an additional entry into the rear wing. This entry consists of a four-light over two-panel door protected by a one-light, aluminum screen door.

The property also features two domestic outbuildings located to the north of the dwelling. The buildings do not contain any architectural features that indicate their historic use. A one-story, one-bay, board-and-batten domestic outbuilding features a front-gabled roof sheathed in wooden shingles. A single-leaf, board-and-batten door is located on the south elevation. A six-light, fixed-sash wood window provides the sole opening on the north elevation. The east and west elevations are devoid of openings.

A one-story, one-bay, fieldstone, domestic outbuilding sits to the east of the wooden shed. A steeply pitched, front-gable roof, clad in wood shingles, caps the building, which faces south. A single-leaf, board-and-batten door, attached with metal strap hinges, is located on the south elevation. A single-leaf, wooden, six-light, Dutch door, affixed with metal strap hinges, is located on the north elevation. The east and west elevations are devoid of openings.

The property encompasses approximately 36.5 acres inhabited by mature deciduous and evergreen trees. Overall the dwelling and associated outbuildings contain little alterations and stand in good condition. (For a more detailed architectural description, see the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form, BA-360, on file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland).

Historical Narrative:

The following comes from the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form, BA-360, on file at the Maryland Historical Trust in Crownsville, Maryland, except where noted.

The Onion-Rawl House stands on the remnant of a large survey called "Expectation" that was later resurveyed into "Fortune," and by 1745 became known as "Onion's Inheritance." The property was surveyed for the British Ironmaster Stephen Onion (1694-1754), who came from England to manage the Baltimore Iron Works on Gwynns Falls. By 1743, Onion severed ties with his former company and established his own ironworks at the head of the Gunpowder River, about a mile from Joppa (Scharf 1881: 922).

The 444-acre tract remained unimproved until 1798 when two small log and frame houses were charged to William Onion. It was most likely during Elizabeth Onion's ownership of the land (1813-1839), which was comprised of 260 acres of "Onion's Inheritance," that the stone dwelling was erected. Elizabeth Onion died in 1839 at the age of 69 and bequeathed the property to her son John Watson Onion. J.C. Sidney's Atlas of 1850 and G.M. Hopkins Atlas of 1877 denote the property as belonging to J.W. Onion.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

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Date

Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

John W. Onion mortgaged the property to his daughter, Elisha Wheeler. In 1896, the mortgage passed to Charles M. Foster, and the 151-year Onion family ownership ended. The trustee's sale included 84 acres of land, "a good, substantial dwelling, stabling, and all other necessary farm buildings." A year later, Foster sold 84 acres to George Stout who then conveyed the property the same day to Benjamin Cross. Another year later, in 1898, Cross sold the property back to Charles Foster.

Following Foster's death, Edward Reynolds bought the property in 1912, and in 1913, sold 44.7 acres, including the dwelling and associated outbuildings, to Dr. Edward P. Brown. In 1930, Dr. Brown sold the property to Harvey K. and Katherine Gorsuch. In 1967, Mrs. Gorsuch, a widow since 1935, sold 36.5 acres, including the dwelling and outbuildings, to Allen and Elizabeth Rawl. The Rawls retain ownership of the property today.

The Georgian architectural style (1700-1830) is arguably the most enduring style of American building, having dominated colonial America for most of the 18th century (McAlester and McAlester 2002: 142). The style grew from the Italian Renaissance, which emphasized classical details, and reached remote England in the mid-16th century (Ibid.). By the early 18th century, the style reached the American colonies when an expanding and increasingly prosperous population began to seek more stylized and fashionable buildings. The concepts of the Georgian style traveled to the colonies through architectural building manuals known as pattern books, the majority of which emerged as inexpensive carpenters' handbooks showing how to construct fashionable doorways, cornices, windows, and mantels (Ibid.). With the end of the American Revolution (1781-1783), the country began to develop new building styles (Federal and Early Classical Revival) based on changing European fashions (McAlester and McAlester 2002: 140). Although scattered Georgian-style houses were built for many decades after American independence, even these usually showed some details of the newer styles, as demonstrated in the Federal detailing of the Onion-Rawl House.

Statement of Significance:

The Onion-Rawl House, located at 11314 Reynolds Road, contains notable features of the Georgian style, including a symmetrical façade, pedimented dormers, paneled doors, and a lighted transom, with some Federal-style detailing, including six-over-six light windows. The Onion-Rawl House exemplifies the Georgian style and retains a remarkably high level of integrity sufficient to deem the dwelling individually eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as a notable example of a Georgian-style residence.

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. that are associated with the lives of significant persons in our past;
- C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. that have yielded or may be likely to yield information important in history or prehistory.

The Onion-Rawl House located at 11314 Reynolds Road is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. The dwelling is not associated with any events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history.

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Date

The Onion-Rawl House is not eligible under Criterion B. Although the individuals that owned and inhabited the property were of families significant to the development of the area, the actual persons that lived in the house were not those directly involved.

The Onion-Rawl House is eligible under Criterion C in the area of architecture as an example of the Georgian style popular in the late-eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The dwelling exhibits notable Georgian detail on the exterior, including a symmetrical façade, double-hung sash windows, paneled main entry, transom, and pedimented dormers (McAlester and McAlester 2002: 138-151).

The property was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of the current investigation.

Integrity:

The Onion-Rawl House retains integrity of design, workmanship, materials, location, setting, association, and feeling. The historic L-shaped footprint remains intact, which supports integrity of design and location; and the dwelling contains its original fenestration pattern, which also contributes to integrity of design. The dwelling retains its original exterior coverings, including fieldstone, weatherboard, and wooden shingles, all of which support integrity of workmanship and materials. The dwelling is situated on a hill overlooking mature woodland and pastures, which contributes to integrity of setting. The dwelling exemplifies the Georgian style, which supports integrity of association. The combination of integrity of design, workmanship, materials, location, setting, and association culminates in integrity of feeling.

References:

Hopkins, G.M.

1877 Atlas of Baltimore County. G.M. Hopkins: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Martenet, Simon J.

1865 Martenet's Map of Maryland: Baltimore. Simon J. Martenet: Baltimore, Maryland.

Maryland Historical Trust

1990 Onion-Rawl House, Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form. On file at the Maryland Historical Trust in Crownsville, Maryland.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee.

2002 A Field Guide to American Houses. Alfred A. Knopf: New York, New York.

National Park Service (NPS)

1997a National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. United States Department of the Interior: Washington DC.

1997b National Register Bulletin: Defining Boundaries for National Register Properties. United States Department of the Interior: Washington DC.

Scharf, J. Thomas.

1881 History of Baltimore City and County. Louis H. Everts: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

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NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

BA-360

Onion-Rawl House

Page 5

Sidney, J.C.

850 Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland. James M. Stephens: Baltimore, Maryland.

Young, Emma.

2006 Personal interview with Allen and Elizabeth Rawl, 16 August 2006. Notes on file in Owings Mills, Maryland.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

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MHT Comments:

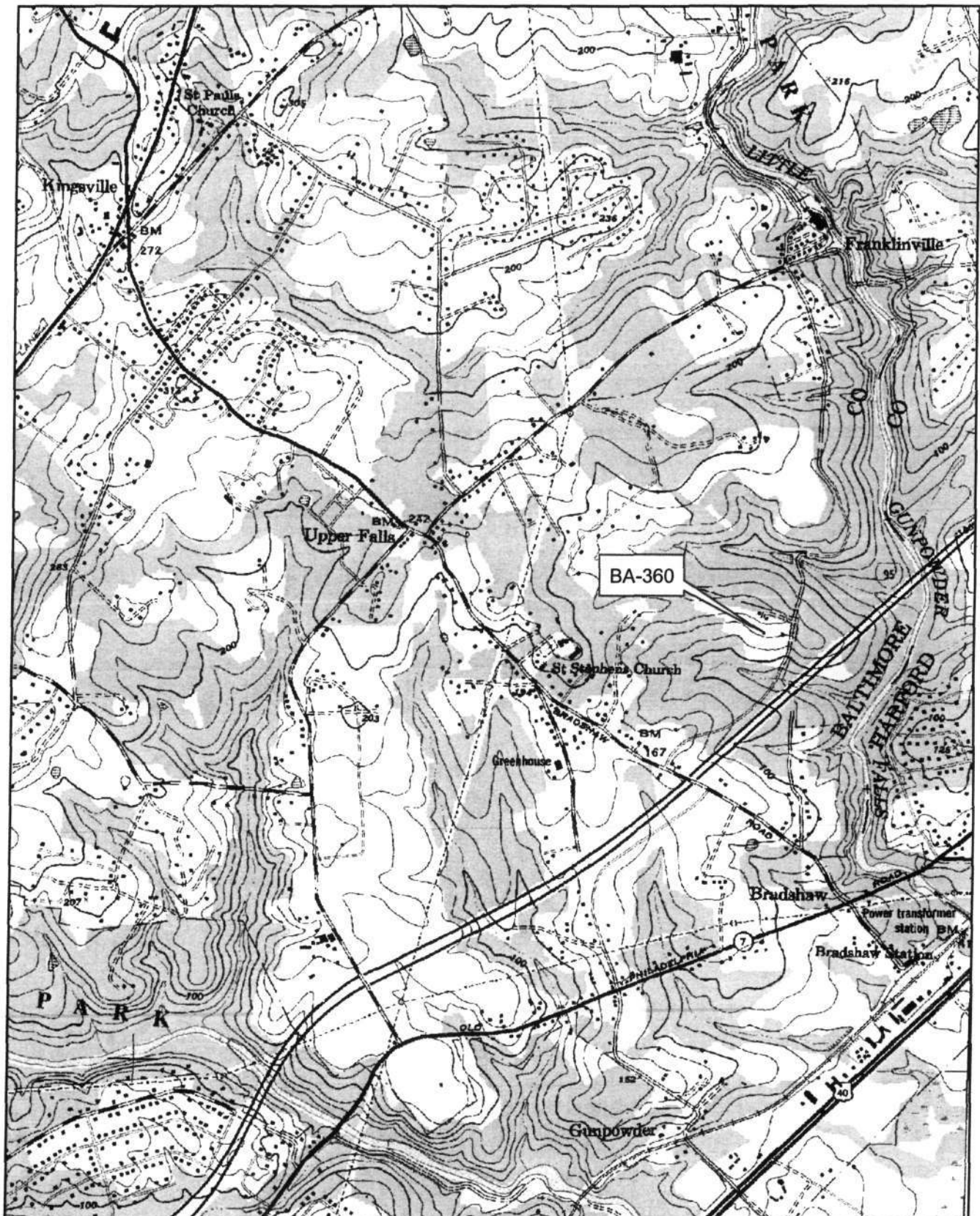
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Date

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Date

Onion-Rawl House
BA-360
11314 Reynolds Road, Baltimore County



0.05 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4
Miles



1:24,000
Source: White Marsh USGS 9.5"
Topo Quadrangle (1986)



BA-360

Onion-Plant House

Baltimore County, Maryland

E. YOUNG

08.2006

MD SHPO

Dwelling; north & west elevations; view to southeast

1 of 9



BA-360

Orion-Fawl House

Baltimore County, Maryland

E. YOUNG

08.2006

MD SHPO

Dwelling; west elevation; main entry detail

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BA-366

Onion-Rawl House

Baltimore County, Maryland

L. YOUNG

08.2006

MD SHPO

Dwelling: south elevation; view to north

3 of 9



BA-360

Orion-Rawl House

Baltimore County, Maryland

E. YOUNG

08.2006

MD SHPO

Dwelling; south elevation view to northwest

4 of 9



BA-369

Driscoll-Farrall House

Baltimore County, Maryland

E. YOUNG

08.2006

MD SHPO

Dwelling, east elevation view to west

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BA-360

Oxley-Bowl House

Baltimore County, Maryland

c. 1600

08.2006

MD SHPO

Dwelling; north elevation; view to south

6 of 9



BA-360

Orion Rowl-House

Baltimore County, Maryland

E. YOUNG

08.2006

MD SHPO

Stone outbuilding. south elevation; view to north

1 of 9



BA-360

Union-Faul House

Baltimore County, Maryland

E. Young

08.2006

MD SHPO

Stone outbuilding, north elevation; view to south

8 of 9



BA 360

Orion-Rawl House

Baltimore County, Maryland

E. Young

08.2006

MD SHPC

Frame outbuilding; south & west elevations; view to
northeast

9 of 9

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Onion-Rawl House

AND/OR COMMON
None**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

11314 Reynolds Road

5th Councilmanic District

CITY, TOWN

Bradshaw

VICINITY OF 2nd

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Maryland 21021

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore County

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE
☐ COMMERCIAL
☐ EDUCATIONAL
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSEUM
☐ PARK
☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Allen C. Rawl et al.

Telephone #: 592-2170

STREET & NUMBER

11314 Reynolds Road

CITY, TOWN

Bradshaw

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland 21021**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Courts Building

Liber #: SM 8134

Folio #: 548

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson,

STATE
Maryland 21204**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE MHT Inventory

DATE

1964--and continuing

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

21 State Circle

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

Maryland 21401

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

BA-360

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The "Onion-Rawl House" is an L-shaped structure, with a five-bay Federal main block tacked onto a smaller and more primitive frame and clapboard section. Measurements taken in 1983 suggest that the rear wing is a close match to a small frame house of William Onion's that was "not quite finished" when the tax assessor visited Onion's Inheritance in 1798.

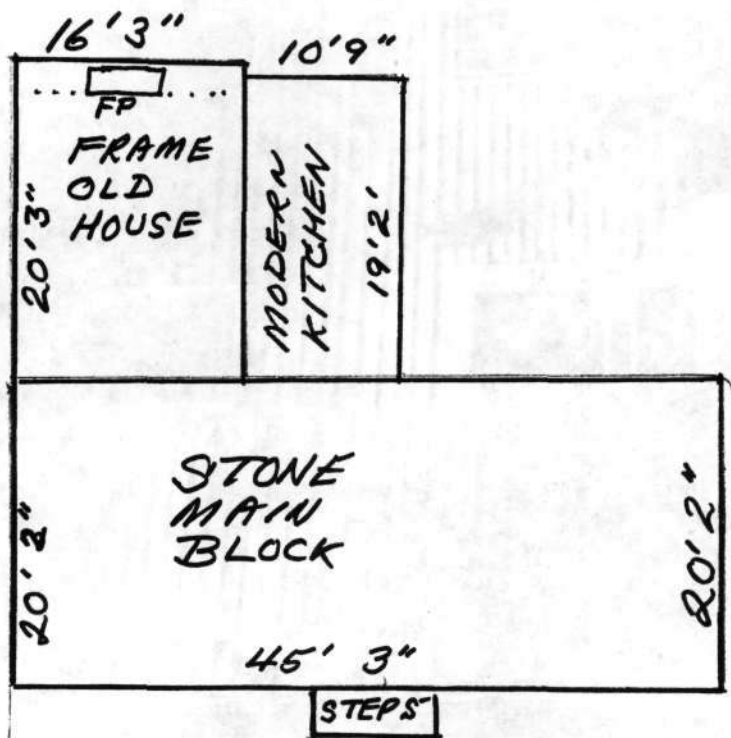
The rear wing is frame and clapboard with a large primitive fireplace at the rear outside wall; the fireplace is adjoined by a closet with a vertical board door and a small compact staircase is packed into the space between the fireplace surface and the rear wall of the house. The ceiling in the kitchen contains exposed squared wooden beams overhead.

The old kitchen stairs lead into a low-ceilinged second story where there is another fireplace using the same inside end-chimney. The second-story bedroom has a plastered ceiling that is almost barrel vaulted in form. The rear wall of the rear wing is blank at both levels, two bays long on the west side.

The main block is a severely plain but well balanced stone house in the Federal style but apparently built with Quaker taste and restraint. There is a paneled center door set in a paneled frame which opens onto a small one-bay brick porch. The main door is topped by a transom. The door and the window frames are topped by flat arches of brick. Some markings on the stones of the main facade suggest that there could have been a one-bay entrance portico.

The basement of the house contains log joists still carrying the original tree bark.

The roof of the main block is punctuated in front by two gable-roofed dormers. Roofing material is cedar shake, the present owner having replaced older plain wood shingles. The east end of the stone block is blank except for two square attic windows. The west end of the main block has a bay of windows serving the rear rooms and also the same sort of square attic windows.



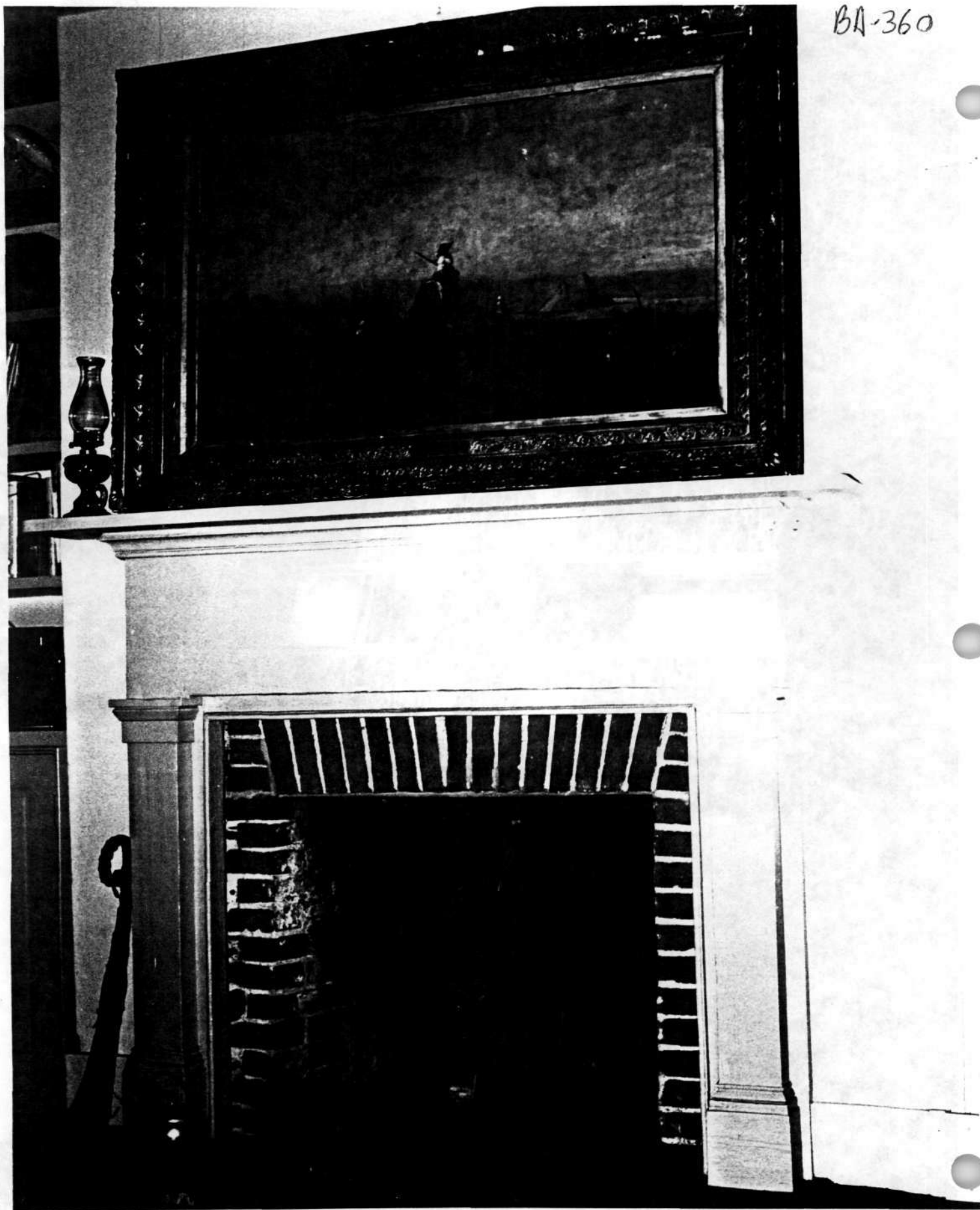
CA-360



BA-360



BA-360



BA-360

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

Frame 1798 (?); Stone 1823-1833

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Onion-Rawl House stands on the remnant of a tract resurveyed for the British ironmaster Stephen Onion (1694-1754). The house consists of a large stone front section that cannot be found in the 1798 tax list and a small frame rear wing 16 by 19 feet, probably of 18th century origin. The older part of the house is a compact dwelling with a narrow stairway crammed into the space next to the kitchen fireplace. The small wing would make a self-contained home for a farm family and a house of almost those dimensions is found in the 1798 tax list of Gunpowder Upper Hundred, a one-and-a-half story structure of frame and log charged to William Onion; that house was "not quite finished" in the words of the assessor. The same assessor found another structure, log, one-and-a-half stories, 20 by 16 feet. (1)

Stephen Onion came to Maryland from Brewood or Braywood, Staffordshire, to manage the Baltimore Iron Works on Gwynns Falls. (2). In 1743, he went into business for himself on the Little Gunpowder Falls where present Maryland Route 7 crosses into Harford County. He had been acquiring land by both purchase and patent in that neighborhood from 1731 onwards. (3) By 1746, he was producing iron. (4) The 1749 papers reported that one of his forges was swept away in a flood. (5) When Onion died in 1754, the Annapolis paper described him as a man of "plentiful fortune". He owned portions of 52 different tracts and lots in both Baltimore and Joppa Town. (6) Onion left all his property to his nephew Zacheus Barrett, provided Barrett take Onion as his last name, which he did. (7) The ironmaster's main house was probably near the furnace and mill complex on the Harford County side of the Little Gunpowder Falls at the head of tidewater navigation. The furnace complex contained seven dwellings as revealed by an advertisement in 1769. (8)

The house of interest to this study stands on part of a large survey called "Expectation" that was later resurveyed into "Fortune". Presumably the title to the property had lapsed twice, because Stephen Onion was able to have "Fortune" and some other tracts resurveyed into "Onion's Inheritance in 1745. (9)

Following the death of Zacheus Barrett Onion, his executors Stephen Onion (Jr.) and the widow Hannah Onion advertised the mill and furnace properties for sale in the Maryland Journal and Baltimore Advertiser in 1782 but the family retained the site on Reynolds Road; its location was 0.8 mile from the ironworks. (11)

The 1783 tax list of Gunpowder Upper Hundred showed Hannah Onion with no taxable improvements on a 444-acre tract of land. (12) The 1798 tax list is usually very informative, but in Gunpowder Upper Hundred and Mine Run Hundred the assessor neglected to record the tract names as was done by most other assessors in other neighborhoods. As mentioned before, two small houses were charged to William Onion in 1798; his total ownership was 250 acres. (12)

The even less informative assessment books for 1813, 1819, and 1823 showed Elizabeth Onion with 260 acres of "Onion's Inheritance" on which the improvements were assessed at \$30, \$50, and \$33, respectively, hardly enough to account for a large stone house. But in the 1833 tax list ledger, the improvements were worth \$400. (13)

Elizabeth Onion died in 1839 at age 69 and left much of her property to her son John Watson Onion; the house and ten acres were to go to her daughter Maria Kennard. (14) Mrs. Onion was rather prosperous and her will mentioned a number of slaves, a carriage, a large looking-glass, furniture in "the dining room", a silver ladle and her "dwelling house" and orchard, also stocks and bank deposits.

J.C. Sidney's 1850 map of the county showed John W. Onion as owner or resident of this house.

There were a number of inter-family deeds. In 1864, Thomas Gorsuch, Sr., conveyed his interest in an 84-acre part of the Elizabeth Onion land to Mary M. Onion for \$2,400. (15)

John W. and Mary M. Onion conveyed their interest in the same 84 acres to Celia C. Onion (wife of James Onion) in 1876. (16)

By drawing up the boundary lines from the 1876 deed, it is clear that the 84 acres fit into the outlines of the old "Fortune" tract that was renamed "Onion's Inheritance" and follows its most obvious lines. The shape of "Fortune" was platted onto William B. Marye's map of early land surveys in the Gunpowder Forks region; the same shape survived into modern times and can be identified on Tax Map 64 which shows that three modern properties fit together to form the 84-acre "Fortune" configuration (Parcels P599, P112, and P477 on which the house stands).

In another move, John W. Onion took sole ownership in 1877 from James H. and Celia C. Onion. That year the G.M. Hopkins atlas showed the house with the notation "J.W. Onion". (17)

John W. Onion mortgaged the property to Elisha Wheeler, and in 1896 when the mortgage had passed to Charles M. Foster, a suit was brought to sell the property, Onion having died in the meanwhile. (18) The long Onion ownership (151 years) was about to end. The trustee in the proceedings advertised the property, giving the first good reference to a large house:

TRUSTEE'S SALE
OF
A GOOD FARM,
Eleventh District Baltimore County.

By virtue of a decree of the Circuit Court for Baltimore County, passed in the equity case of Charles H. Foster-vs-Wm. F. A. Foster, Martha G. Foster, Martha G. Pridham, and others, on the 27th day of June, 1896, the undersigned, the trustee named in said decree to make sale of the property decreed to be sold, will sell at public sale, on the premises, on

Saturday, November 7th,
At 2 o'clock P.M.
ALL THAT FARM

upon which John W. Onion, in his lifetime resided, it being in the 11th district of Baltimore County, and located on the road leading from Franklinville to Bradshaw Station on the B. & O. R.R., adjoining the lands of Messrs. Reynolds, Doyle, Corbin, and others, about a mile and a quarter from Bradshaw Station and near the Baltimore and Havre de Grace Turnpike Road. The farm contains

EIGHTY-FOUR ACRES OF LAND,

more or less, is in a good and improving neighborhood, is in a fair state of cultivation, and is improved by a

GOOD, SUBSTANTIAL DWELLING,

Stabling, and all necessary farm buildings, well watered, with Fruit and other advantages for a comfortable home.

Terms of sale--

JOHN L. LONGNECKER, Trustee

JAS. L. NORWOOD, Auct.
Oct 17-ts

(19)

Charles M. Foster bid on the house at the auction on November 7, 1896, and late the next year sold all 84 acres to George M. Stout who conveyed the same day to Benjamin M. Cross. (20) A year later, Cross conveyed it back to Charles H. Foster. (21)

Following a lawsuit among the Foster heirs, Edward Reynolds, a Franklinville landowner, bought the place in 1912. (22) Reynolds, who had a splendid house called "Sherwood" on Franklinville Road, sold in 1913 to Dr. Edward P. Brown, who acquired only 44.7 acres. (23)

Dr. Brown was found in the 1918 tax ledger with:

45 a. on rd from Joppa rd to Franklinville
adj Dr. Hamman on e.

10 a. tillable @ \$60
35 a. wood \$30

House 21 x 45 \$2486
16 x 20

Other Bldg \$ 150 (24) f.413

Dr. Brown and his wife sold in 1930 to Harvey K. and Katherine L. Gorsuch, and in 1967, Mrs. Gorsuch, a widow, since 1935, sold to the present owner and other relatives. (25) 4743:172

None of the accumulated evidence suggests a date for the stone part of the house. Its style suggests that it is pre-Victorian and similar to houses of the Western Run Valley. It seems possible that it was built for Mrs. Elizabeth Onion between the 1823 tax list and the jump in the value of improvements on the property to \$400 by 1833. The founder of the family, Stephen Onion, has an 18th century tombstone in the St. John's, Kingsville, cemetery, but he was not originally interred there. Mrs. Edith Gorsuch Onion wrote in 1973, "My father, Thomas Bosley Gorsuch, and his brother, Edwin, brought the tombstone and bones from Joppa, the original location of St. John's Church to its present site." (26)

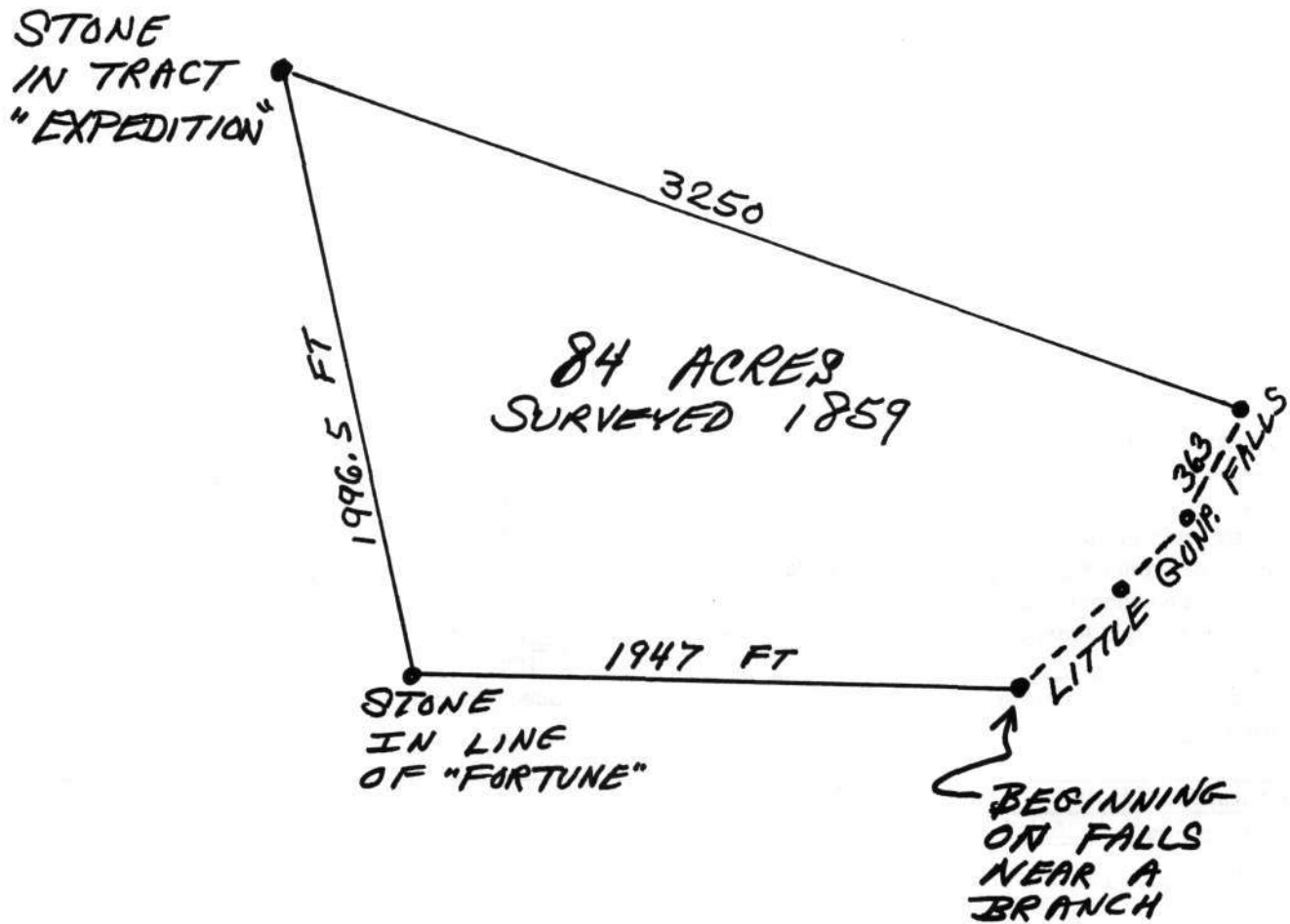
NOTES:

1. Federal Direct Tax List, Baltimore County, 1798, Gunpowder Upper Hundred, Entry #1581, #1830, microfilm, Office of Planning.
2. Stephen Onion tombstone, St. John's P.E. Church, Kingsville. Stephen Onion to Charles Carroll of Annapolis, November 19, 1737, Carroll-McCubbin Papers, MS. 219, Maryland Historical Society.
3. William B. Marye, "A Tract or Land Patent Map of the Fork of the Gunpowder River", 1958, MS., photostat in Office of Planning.

4. Annapolis Maryland Gazette, March 24, 1746.
5. Maryland Gazette, September 6, 1749.
6. Maryland Gazette, August 29, 1754. Also, F. Edward Wright, Inhabitants of Baltimore County, 1692-1763 (Baltimore, 1987), p. 54.
7. Maryland Wills, 29:174.
8. Maryland Gazette, August 17, 1769.
9. Marye, "A Tract Map", 1958.
10. Baltimore Maryland Journal, January 15, 1782.
11. Baltimore County Tax List, 1783, Gunpowder Upper Hundred, reprint in Baltimore County Public Library, Towson.
12. Federal Direct Tax List, op. cit. This was William Francis Heath Onion.
13. Baltimore County Assessments, 1813, 1823, 1833, Assessor's Field Book 1819, Old District 4. Hall of Records, Annapolis.
14. B.C. Wills DMP 17:298. Baltimore Sun, May 17, 1839.
15. B.C. Deeds, JHL 41:484.
16. B.C. Deeds, JB 95:493.
17. B.C. Deeds, JB 101:470.
18. B.C. Judicial Records, LMB 161:100.
19. Towson Maryland Journal, October 24, 1896.
20. B.C. Deeds, NBM 226:404; NBM 229:272, 273.
21. B.C. Deeds, NBM 271:381.
22. B.C. Deeds, WPC 410:7.
23. B.C. Deeds, WPC 421:137.
24. B.C. Tax Ledger, District 11, 1918, f. 413, Records Management Office, Yellow Brick Road, Rosedale.
25. B.C. Deeds, LMcLM 864:259. Also, OTG 4743:172.
26. Edith Gorsuch Onion to J. W. McGrain, July 1973.

ONION.SIG/TXTMJM

William B. Marye's 1958 reconstruction of colonial surveys. See tract "Fortune," which was resurveyed in 1745 into Onion's Inheritance."



LINES IN DEED OF 1876,
JOHN W. & MARY B. ONION
TO CELIA C. ONION, JB 95:493

MHT Inventory No.:

☐ See continuation sheet




Primary location of additional data:




- ☐ State historic preservation office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other

Specify repository:

Acreage of property 36.49

UTM References

B   
Zone Easting Northing

D   

☐ See continuation sheet

Tax Map 64, Parcel P477. Bounded on east by Reynolds Road, on north by Gunpowder State Park, on east by original 1714 line of tract "Fortune", along Parcels P85, P86, and P102.

☐ See continuation sheet☐ See continuation sheet

name/title John McGrain

date August 3, 1990

telephone 887-3211